



Form –Tone and Irony

A PPT by B.A. Luis Salazar Castro

LM-1366 Introduction to Poetry

Form

- It refers to the physical shape of the words on paper
- How the words are arranged in lines and stanzas
- How words match in a pattern or differ from one another
- How words grant a shape to the poem (concrete)
- It entails a series of sub concepts such as:

Rhyme

- This refers to the way in which the sounds of words match into a pattern, whether it happens within one line, at the ending of lines, or throughout the entire poem

A Dream within a Dream –Edgar Allan Poe

Take this kiss upon the brow!
And, in parting from you now,
Thus much let me avow--
You are not wrong, who deem
That my days have been a dream;
Yet if hope has flown away
In a night, or in a day,
In a vision, or in none,
Is it therefore the less gone?
All that we see or seem
Is but a dream within a dream.

Types of rhyme

- Multiple: more than two lines rhyming
- Enjambments: spillovers in between lines
- Caesura: breaks within lines
- End rhymes: self explanatory
- Internal rhymes: self exp.
- Single rhymes: the ending of a word holds the rhyme
- Double rhymes: the last two syllables rhyme with the stress in the first (started/parted)
- Triple rhymes: three syllables rhyme, with the stress on the first (beautiful/dutiful)
- Half (slant) rhyme: sounds are similar, but not the same (bear it/spirit)
- Assonance: sounds are similar, but not patterned (safe/fade)
- Alliteration: initial sounds are the same (kite / cone)

Meter

- Is the metrical arrangement of the number of syllables and the order of the stress in those syllables.
(see examples in your course packet)
- Iambic: two syllable words with final stress
- Trochaic: initial stress in two syllables
- Anapest: two unstressed followed by one stressed
- Dactyl: one stressed followed by two unstressed

- Meter also refers to how many combinations are used per line, that is, how many iambic combos there are

- Pentameter (five)
- Tetrameter (four)
- Trimeter (three)
- Hexameter (six)

Tone

- Tone refers to the general feeling or emotion that the poem evokes
- It is expressed in one word (which is an adjective)

Heart! We will forget him!
You and I -- tonight!
You may forget the warmth he gave --
I will forget the light!

When you have done, pray tell me
That I may straight begin!

Haste! lest while you're lagging
I remember him!

—Emily Dickinson

Irony and Paradox

- Irony: reveals a humorous side to the words in a poem.
- It often reveals itself near a poem's end but only under thoughtful attention
- Paradox: is an apparent contradiction
- This “contradictory” idea is revealed to make sense if you look at it with care